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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

February 23, 2010

Corey Thurston
Western Clay Company
620 East State Hwy 24
Aurora, Utah 84620

Subject: Second Review of Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations, Western Clay Company, Bentonite Pits, M/041/0012, Sevier County, Utah

Dear Mr. Thurston:

The Division has completed a review of your Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Bentonite Pits, which was received January 25, 2010. The attached comments will need to be addressed before tentative approval may be granted.

We acknowledge a submittal received February 23, 2010, in response to a draft version of the comments in this review already sent to you. We have not yet reviewed that submittal.

If you have questions about this review, please contact me at 801-538-5261 or John Rogers, at 801-538-5349. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Baker
Minerals Program Manager

PBB:jr:vs
Attachment: Review
cc: jblake@utah.gov
O:\M041-Sevier\M0410012-BentonitePits\final\Rev2-3346-02112010a.doc



**SECOND REVIEW OF NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO COMMENCE LARGE MINING OPERATIONS**

**Western Clay Company
Benonite Pits**

**M/041/0012
February 23, 2010**

R647-4-105 - Maps, Drawings & Photographs

General Map Comments

Comment #	Sheet/Page/Map/Table #	Comments	Initials	Review Action
1	Mine maps	Provide a north arrow on all maps. The labeled traverse line of the cross section should be in the form A – A' and tied directly to the mine map. The corresponding cross section should be labeled in the same manner.	JR	
2	Mine map	All linear scales should have units associated with them.	JR	
4	Mine map	Each mine map should have a longitudinal cross section of the pit so that a 3 – dimensional view can be obtained.	JR	
6	Cross Sections	The scales on the cross sections should have units of measurements associated with them.	JR	
7	Cross sections	The vertical mine walls should show a slope to represent the true nature of the planned mine. Vertical walls of 20 feet or more are not likely or safe in clay units.	JR	
8	Mine map	Locate the Sheep Trail Flat pit on the mine map. Include acreage. Label both pits in the Sheep Trail South section.	JR	

R647-4-113 – Surety

Comment #	Sheet/Page/Map/Table #	Comments	Initials	Review Action
9	Surety spreadsheet	The surety calculations provided cannot be verified because of lack of information in the plan. The Division needs longitudinal cross sections of all pits, to verify volumes for backfill and grading. The spreadsheet provided must be tied to the cross sections in order to verify that enough fill material has been represented in order to allow free drainage in the reclaimed pits. Once the cross sections (longitudinal) are completed, the Division will verify the accuracy of the spreadsheet and final reclamation. Please be sure to document the various volumes, acres, etc., and include (or exclude as the case may be) the reclamation work completed on the North Pit, showing only the revegetation costs associated with that area. This action will effectively combine your recent partial bond release request with the approval of this amendment.	JR	